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ATA

Last modified: April 19, 2002

Short for *Advanced Technology Attachment*, a disk drive implementation that integrates the controller on the disk drive itself. There are several versions of ATA, all developed by the *Small Form Factor (SFF) Committee*:

- **ATA:** Known also as IDE, supports one or two hard drives, a 16-bit interface and PIO modes 0, 1 and 2.
- **ATA-2:** Supports faster PIO modes (3 and 4) and multiword DMA modes (1 and 2). Also supports logical block addressing (LBA) and block transfers. ATA-2 is marketed as *Fast ATA* and Enhanced IDE (EIDE).
- **ATA-3:** Minor revision to ATA-2.
- **Ultra-ATA:** Also called *Ultra-DMA*, *ATA-33*, and *DMA-33*, supports multiword DMA mode 3 running at 33 MBps.
- **ATA/66:** A version of ATA proposed by Quantum Corporation, and supported by Intel, that doubles ATA's throughput to 66 MBps.
- **ATA/100:** An updated version of ATA/66 that increases data transfer rates to 100 MBps.

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Describes the different major interface standards

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currently used by hard disks (and other devices). Provides sections about the IDE/ATA and SCSI interfaces. This page is from "The PC Guide."

Integrated Drive Electronics / AT Attachment Interface

Describes IDE/ATA standards and features, transfer modes and protocols, and configuration and cabling. This page is from "The PC Guide."

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IDE interface

Last modified: July 9, 2001

Abbreviation of either *Intelligent Drive Electronics* or *Integrated Drive Electronics*, depending on who you ask. An IDE interface is an interface for mass storage devices, in which the controller is integrated into the disk or CD-ROM drive.

Although it really refers to a general technology, most people use the term to refer the ATA specification, which uses this technology. Refer to ATA for more information.

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For internet.com pages about **IDE interface** **CLICK HERE**. Also check out the following links!

LINKS

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Hard Disk Interfaces and Configuration

Describes the different major interface standards currently used by hard disks (and other devices). Provides sections about the IDE/ATA and SCSI interfaces. This page is from "The PC Guide."

Integrated Drive Electronics / AT Attachment (IDE/ATA) Interface

Describes IDE/ATA standards and feature sets, transfer modes and protocols, and configuration and cabling. This page is from "The PC Guide."

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Integrated Drive Electronics / AT Attachment Interface

Describes IDE/ATA standards and features, transfer modes and protocols, and configuration and cabling. This page is from "The PC Guide."

IDE Device Setup / Autodetection

Describes the BIOS settings that control the setup of IDE/ATA devices (particularly hard disk drives). This page is from "The PC Guide".

Hard Disk BIOS and Capacity Factors

Describes issues related to how the BIOS and operating system interact with the hard disk, and BIOS-related issues and problems. Includes a full look at the many capacity limitations inherent in using IDE/ATA interface drives, and other BIOS restrictions on hard disk capacity. This page is from "The PC Guide."

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